

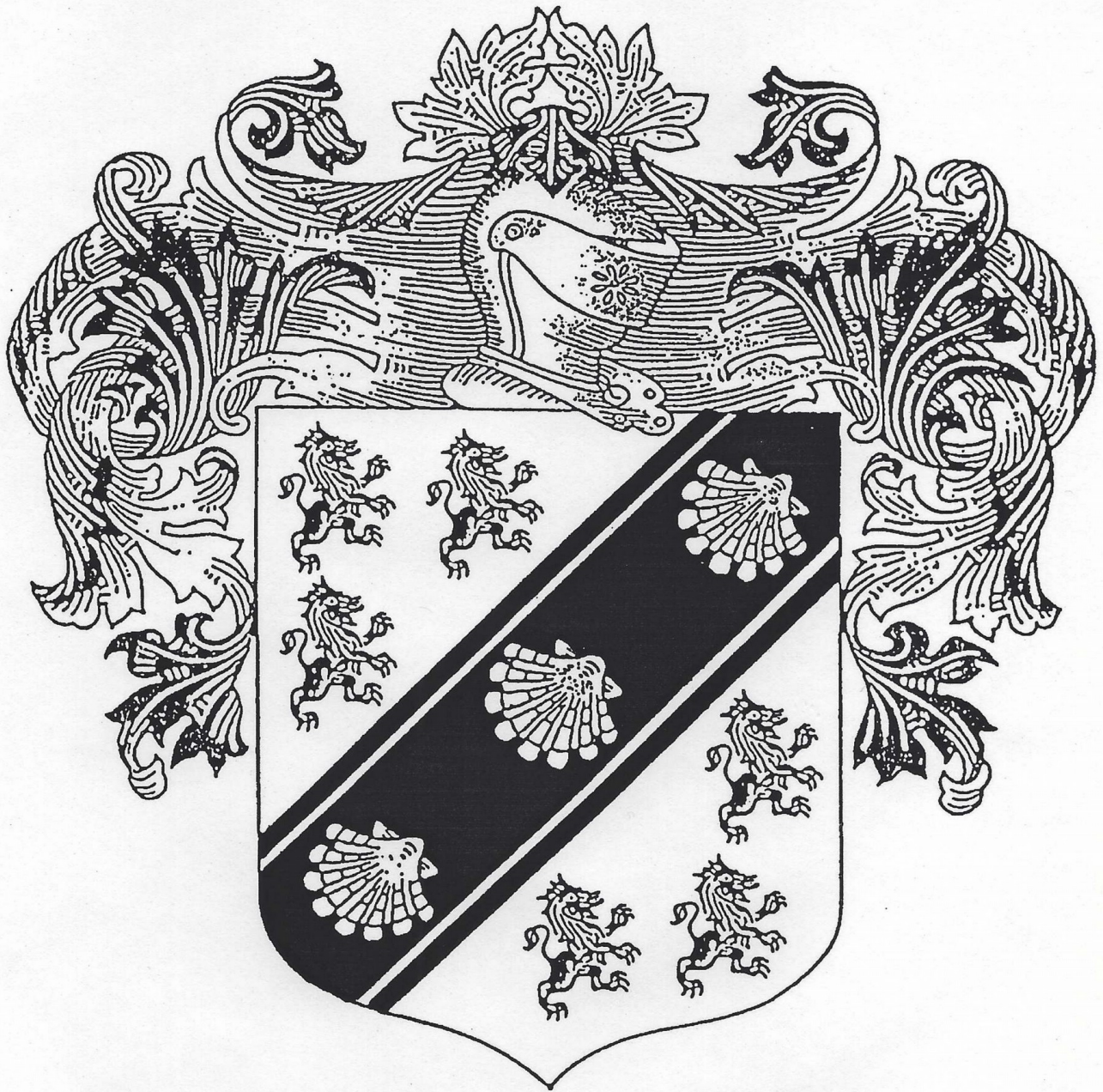
# **A Norton Family History**



James L. Norton

For my children – Bob, Jamie, Bill and Phil.  
Constant sources of pride and joy.

July 1992



A Norton Crest from Burke's "Armory"

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## **A Brief Preface**

This is a story of our Norton family as it has endured, from generation to generation, through nine centuries. The account is not intended to be a formal genealogical treatise, with a footnote for every fact. Rather, it is a personal narrative of my ancestors' lives and the times in which they lived, written primarily for my children.

To avoid confusion, I have largely restricted the account to the direct surname line of descent. The genealogical charts that follow each chapter list the names in columns. The first column of names in any chart is the oldest generation and has the lowest generation number at the head of each name in that column. Each following generation is indented by one column to the right. Within each column, names appear in chronological order from top to bottom, and the generation numbers within a particular column are all the same.

Occasionally, a collateral line is interesting enough to follow for a few generations. On the genealogical charts, a collateral line, branching off the main line, is indicated by (CL) and a separate chart will be found on the following pages.

The following abbreviations are used throughout the charts:

- sp - spouse
- [name] - alternate spelling
- [date-date] - dates of birth and death
- ? - unknown name
- abt - about
- \* - direct line of descent
- (number) - generation number

Good luck, dear reader, in following this history of our Norton family!

*“There is a history in all men’s lives,  
Figuring the natures of the times deceased.”*

# **Chapter One**

## **The de Norvilles of Normandy**

The earliest documentation of our family history is a genealogical chart prepared in 1632 by John Philipott, Herald of Somerset. This chart traces the Norton ancestry back to the 11<sup>th</sup> century Normandy. A copy of the chart was brought to America by Rev. John Norton in 1634.

John Philipott was an official Herald of England and as such it was his obligation to prepare genealogies and officiate at public ceremonies. He also judged all claims for coats of arms in his district. To be approved, the design of the coat of arms had to follow certain formal rules. For example, these rules required that, if a nobleman married an heiress of a noble family, their coat of arms was divided to show both insignia. The sons of a noble were entitled to the same coat of arms but modified by a formula depending on the order of their birth. By studying the records of these coats of arms, one could possibly construct an approximate genealogy. Philipott, as a member of the Royal College of Arms, had access to these records. The first part of this Norton genealogy, from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> century was probably derived from such a study. One of his notes attached to the chart reads "...For the proof whereof, it is to be understood that this pedigree agreeth with the records in the Office of Arms..."

Surprisingly, the first person mentioned on this chart is not a Norton but Le Seigneur de Norville of Normandy. Le Seigneur was the highest official in the court of William, Duke of Normandy, and possessed a large estate. When William conquered England in 1066, he supplanted the English nobility with his own. Le Seigneur, who came with William to England had married into the house of Valois, a royal house of France. His descendants married in succession heiresses of the houses of Barr, Dalbemonte, Nevill of Raby, Dampre de Court, Hadscoke and Bassingbourne.

Some of the de Norvilles settled in the village of Norton (North Town), near the town of York, in northeastern England. Browning, a noted American genealogist, states in his book, *Americans of Royal Descent*, that Lady Maude de Grey married Sir John de Norville, lord of Norton of Yorkshire. Since Maude was a descendant of both Charlemagne and King Alfred the Great, it is likely that her marriage record is valid. Their son was known as Sir John de Norton of Sharpenhoe and his son as John Norton of Sharpenhoe. In three generations, the evolution of the name from de Norville to Norton was complete. As additional evidence of the link between the names, the Norton coat of arms was identical to that of the de Norvilles.

In this first chapter, the figures are seen dimly, viewed through the haze of time. The earliest generations may not be completely accurate, with some generations probably missing, since the records were derived from heraldry and not from documents available today.





## Chart 1A - The de Norvilles of Normandy

- 1 LeSeigneur de Norville \*
- sp ---?, House of Valois
- 2 Le Sieur de Norville \*
- sp ---?, House of Barr
- 3 Le Sieur de Norville \*
- sp ---?, House of Dalbemonte
- 4 Le Sieur de Norville \*
- sp Avelina, daughter of Nevill of Raby
- 5 Le Sieur de Norville \*
- sp Joricia, daughter of Sigr. Dampre de Court
- 6 Le Sieur de Norville \*
- sp ---?, daughter of Sir John Hadscoke
- 7 Le Sieur de Norville \*
- sp ---?, daughter of Msgr. Basingbourne
- 8 Elizabeth Norton
- sp Roger Hill
- 8 Sir John de Norville \*
- sp Lady Maude de Grey,  
daughter of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Grey of Ruthyn (CL)
- 9 John de Norville of Sharpenhoe \*
- sp ---?
- 10 John Norton of Sharpenhoe \*
  
- 9 ---?
- sp ---?, daughter of Monchencie
- 9 Joane Norton
- First sp of William Walker
- Second sp Thomas Norland
- 9 Katherine Norton

## Chart 1B - Ancestry of Lady Maude de Grey

- 1 Alfred the Great, King of England [848-901]
  - 2 Edward the Elder, King of England [871-924]
    - 3 Lady Edgina  
sp Henry, Count of Vermandois
      - 4 Hubert, 4<sup>th</sup> Count of Vermandois
        - 5 Lady Adela de Vermandois  
sp Hugh Magnus, son of Henry I, King of France
          - 6 Lady Isabel de Vermandois  
sp Robert. Baron of Bellomont
            - 7 Robert, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Leicester
              - 8 Robert, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Leicester
                - 9 Lady Margaret of Bellomont  
sp Saier de Quincey
                  - 10 Roger, 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Winchester
                    - 11 Lady Margaret de Quincey  
sp William de Ferrers
                      - 12 Lady Joan le Despencer
                        - 13 Lady Ann Ferrers  
sp John, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lord Grey de Ruthyn
                          - 14 Lady Maude de Grey  
sp Sir John de Norville \*  
Lord of Norton, Yorkshire

## Chapter Two

### The Nortons of Sharpenhoe

The second section of Philipott's genealogy, [Chart 2], from the 15<sup>th</sup> century to 1632, was based on information provided by Thomas Norton, Esq, and his son, Robert. There is a note added to the chart that states, "The residue of this pedigree is partly added by Thomas Norton, Esq, son of said Thomas [the elder] with his own hand extent, and for the most part within memory, and continued down to the present yeare 1632, by the information of Mr. Robert Norton, the elder, sonn of the said Mr. Thomas Norton the younger." In addition, there is adequate supporting documentation of this entire section.

A cluster of Norton families gathered around the hamlet called Sharpenhoe, consisting of a manor house and a few additional homes. The name "hoe" is the Anglicized version of the Scandinavian word for mound or barrow. The estate was located in southern Bedfordshire, just to the north of a mound called Sharpenhoe Knoll, near the village of Luton.

The earliest Norton recorded in the area is Sir William de Norton with his wife, Isabella, who held the barony of Sharpenhoe in 1302. At Clophill, about five miles north of Sharpenhoe, Peter and Thomas de Norton were recorded in 1330. In 1373, Sir Ralph de Norton lived in the area. Sir John de Norton (9) and his son John Norton, were present in the fifteenth century. Thomas Norton, the elder (11), purchased the estate in the sixteenth century.

There is extensive biographical material available on Thomas (11) and his descendants, and this collateral line will be followed.

Some of the enlarged families moved to nearby Luton, Dunstable and to London.

The identification of George Norton (14), the son of John Norton of Luton (13) with the George Norton that emigrated to Salem, is not completely confirmed by documentation. Rather, it is based on a strong family tradition that relates George (14) to Rev. John Norton (14) and his brother, William (14). These three relatives, two brothers and a cousin, emigrated to New England at about the same time. Reverend Lewis Norton, in his early study of the Norton family, firmly supported this relationship, based on personal interviews of descendants of George Norton of Salem. The tradition is so persistent that even after three centuries, my parents were aware of it.



## Map 2 - Southern United Kingdom



## Chart 2 - The Nortons of Sharpenhoe

9 John de Norton of Sharpenhoe [abt 1440 - ?] \*  
sp ---?  
    10 John Norton of Sharpenhoe [abt 1470 -?] \*  
        1<sup>st</sup> sp ---? Danie  
            11 William Norton  
    2<sup>nd</sup> sp Jane Cowper [Cooper]  
        11 Thomas Norton Sr. [abt 1500 – 1583] (CL)  
        11 Richard Norton \*  
        sp Margery Wyngate [Wingate]  
            12 Richard Norton [abt 1544 - ?]  
            12 William Norton [1545 - ?] \*  
            1<sup>st</sup> sp Margerie Hawes [Hayes]  
                13 William Norton [abt 1575 - ?]  
                sp Alice Bownest  
                    14 Rev. John Norton [May 6, 1606 - ?]  
                    14 William Norton  
                    14 Richard Norton  
                    14 Thomas Norton  
                    14 Martha Norton  
                    14 Mary Norton  
    2<sup>nd</sup> sp Denise [Dionysia] Cholmondeley  
        13 Thomas Norton  
        13 John Norton of Luton \*  
        sp ---?  
            14 John Norton [1605 - ?]  
            sp Alice ---?  
            14 Jonas Norton [1607-1608]  
            14 George Norton [1610-1659] \*

continued ...

... continued

13 Elizabeth Norton  
13 Francis Norton  
13 Hugh Norton  
13 Daniel Norton  
13 Phoebe Norton  
sp Richard Allen  
13 Richard Norton  
1<sup>st</sup> sp Ellen Rowley  
2<sup>nd</sup> sp Lettice Norton  
12 Daniel Norton  
12 Thomas Norton  
sp Anne Pratt  
12 ---?  
sp Edward Hill  
12 ---?  
sp William Wynch  
12 Johane  
11 Robert Norton  
11 Alice Norton  
11 Edward Norton  
11 John Norton  
1<sup>st</sup> sp ---? Preston  
2<sup>nd</sup> sp Agnes Spicer  
11 Mark Norton  
11 William Norton  
10 Jane Norton  
10 Isabel Norton  
10 Alice Norton

## **Chapter Three**

### **The Descendants of Thomas Norton**

Thomas Norton (11), brother of Richard, was born at Sharpenhoe about 1500. He was a wealthy London merchant and purchased the Sharpenhoe estate from the Crown. He died there, after a protracted illness, on March 10, 1583.

Thomas married three times, first to Elizabeth Merry, by whom he had three children, including Thomas junior. His second and third wives were widows, Elizabeth (Marshall) Radcliffe, and Elizabeth (---?) Osborne.

His son, Thomas (12) was born in London in 1532. In 1555, he was admitted as a student in Law. His favorite studies were theology and poetry. In 1561, he co-authored the earliest drama in blank verse in the English language. He translated the works of Peter Martyr and John Calvin, Protestant theologians. He was granted a Master of Arts degree by the University of Cambridge on June 10, 1570. Thomas was appointed Remembrancer of London, a position in charge of taxation for the city. In 1571, he was elected a Member of Parliament for London and served for the remainder of his life. Historians have called him the foremost Elizabethan Parliamentarian.

Thomas married Margaret Cranmer, the daughter of Thomas Cranmer, who had been appointed by Henry VIII as the Archbishop of Canterbury. Cranmer was the godfather of Henry's daughter, the future Queen Elizabeth, and was an important figure in establishing the Reformation under Henry VIII. Thomas' marriage is evidence of his political status and his commitment to the Protestant faith.



When Queen Mary ascended the throne and re-established Catholicism, Cranmer and several hundred other religious leaders were burnt at the stake. This embittered Thomas to such an extent that he devoted a great deal of his efforts in Parliament to furthering the Puritan cause and opposing Catholicism. He severely persecuted several Jesuit priests who were convicted of entering England illegally.

Margaret died shortly after their marriage, and Thomas then married Alice Cranmer, a niece of Thomas Cranmer.

Queen Elizabeth, who succeeded Mary in 1558, attempted to defuse this divisive religious issue. She charged Parliament to develop a consensus as to the form of worship for the Church of England and then insisted on absolute conformity to the established order of worship. Many believed that Elizabeth had failed to purify the Church sufficiently of its Catholic origins and these members, known as Puritans, became a large dissenting sect within the Anglican Church. Thomas rashly opposed the Queen's demand for conformity, urging further Puritan reforms, and he was arrested for treason in 1581. His friend Christopher Hatton, the Lord Chancellor, a court favorite of Queen Elizabeth, interceded in his behalf, and he was freed on April 10, 1582. He wrote Hatton a grateful letter, saying that "his disgrace had given triumph to the enemies of God," and he deplored "the lamentable estate of his wife, whereof I am not yet in full hope of recovery and her loss were my utter worldly destruction."

Thomas persisted in his opposition and was again arrested for treason. He was imprisoned in the Tower, but again released shortly before he died at his residence in Sharpenhoe, on March 10, 1584.

Captain Walter Norton (13), a son of Thomas, was a professional soldier, serving in the many wars on the Continent. With his brother, Robert (13), and several other relatives, he purchased a grant of land in Maine. He emigrated to America in 1629, and was at York, Maine in 1632. He was not a religious refugee, but was interested only in the commercial development of his grant.

He joined his interests with Captain John Stone, who had a questionable reputation with the Puritan colonists. Stone had been involved in trading between the West Indies and the Virginia colony. Together, they undertook a trading venture to the Pequots Indians, in the lower Connecticut River valley. The Pequots had a reputation for violence, having forced their way into the valley against the opposition of the local tribes. Captain Norton and Captain Stone sailed into the mouth of the river and were attacked by the Pequots. "They knocked Stone on the head as he lay in his cabin and drew the coverings over his face, possibly out of fear. Then, they killed the rest of Stone's party. The only man to put up a fight was Captain Norton, who defended himself for a long time in the galley. He might have lasted longer had not the gunpowder, which for readiness he had set in an open thing before him, caught alight and exploded, burning and blinding him, so the attackers were able to finish him off. The Indians praised Norton for his courage."

The Pequots committed several other atrocities in the next few years, and John Endicott mustered the militia in 1637. Captain John Mason led two surprise attacks against their villages and slaughtered most of the tribe. As a result, the entire lower valley of the Connecticut River was opened to settlement by the colonists. One of Captain Walter Norton's close relatives would benefit from this opportunity.



### **Chart 3 - Thomas Norton (Collateral Line)**

11 Thomas Norton, the elder [abt 1500 – 1583]

1<sup>st</sup> sp Elizabeth Merry

12 Margaret Norton

sp ---? Symons

12 Thomas Norton, Esq [1532 – 1584]

sp Margaret Cranmer

sp Alice Cranmer

13 Henry Norton

13 Robert Norton

sp Anne Heare [Hare]

14 Thomas Norton

14 Robert Norton

14 Thomas Norton of Guilford

sp Grace Wells

14 Anne Norton

14 Richard Norton

14 George Norton

14 Anne Norton

sp James Castle

14 Elizabeth Norton

continued ...

... continued

13 William Norton  
sp Ruth Harding  
13 Thomas Norton  
13 Christopher Norton  
13 Walter Norton [1580 – 1633]  
1<sup>st</sup> sp Jane Reynolds  
14 Elizabeth Norton  
2<sup>nd</sup> sp Eleanor ---?  
14 Jane Norton  
13 Anne Norton  
sp Sir George Coppin  
14 Robert Coppin  
14 Thomas Coppin  
13 Margaret Norton  
13 Elizabeth Norton  
1<sup>st</sup> sp Miles Raynesford  
14 Robert Raynesford  
14 Garrett Raynesford  
2<sup>nd</sup> sp Symon Basell  
14 Symon Basell  
12 Joane Norton  
1<sup>st</sup> sp ---? Spicer  
2<sup>nd</sup> sp ---? Barrett  
2<sup>nd</sup> sp Elizabeth (Marshall) Radcliffe  
12 Luke Norton  
sp Lettice Gravely  
3<sup>rd</sup> sp Elizabeth Osborne  
12 Daniel Norton  
12 Barnabas Norton  
12 Isaac Norton

## **Chapter Four**

### **George Norton, Emigrant**

George Norton was born in 1610, in the village of Luton, about four miles south of Sharpenhoe. He was apprenticed as a carpenter and by age eighteen was working at his trade.

Life in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century was chaotic in England. Political strife and religious contention were rampant. Charles I was King and continued to harass the Puritans with increasing severity. Puritan ministers were officially silenced. The King was in continual conflict with the Puritan-controlled Parliament, a conflict that would eventually cost him his head. In London, disease was prevalent and crime flourished. The economy was severely depressed by the wars on the Continent. Pollution in London was so bad that Parliament moved to Oxford.

The Puritans discussed emigrating to America as a necessary alternative. A commercial fishing settlement had been established at Salem, and this was considered as a possible site. Rev Francis Higginson, a popular Puritan leader, agreed to join an expedition of colonists who would emigrate and prepare a settlement for a large Puritan exodus that would follow.

George Norton considered his options. He could either remain in England, with oppressive religious and economic conditions or brave the wild shore of the New World. His relative, Captain Walter Norton, was eager to go, and this may have afforded George some encouragement.

The first ship of the expedition was the *George Bonaventure*, that sailed in mid-April of 1629. The ships *Talbot* and *Lyon's Whelp* sailed from Gravesend on April 25, 1629. Additional ships, *Four Sisters*, and *Mayflower* sailed from ports in southern England in May. Winds were unfavorable for sailing and it took several weeks to clear the English Channel. At Land's End, George must have looked back at his native land with profound sorrow, tempered with hopes for a better life in the New World.



## **Chart 4 - George Norton, Emigrant**

13 John Norton of Luton \*

sp ---?

14 John Norton [1605 - ?]

sp Alice ---?

15 Joane Norton [1634 - ?]

15 Agnes Norton [1641 - ?]

14 Jonas Norton [1607 – 1608]

14 George Norton [1610 – 1659] \*

## **Chapter Five**

### **Salem, A Puritan Haven**

In the century following the discovery of the New World, fisherman from England, France, and Portugal had sailed to the Grand Banks, south of Newfoundland. They would arrive in the spring and fish until they had caught the ship's limit. Occasionally, some of the crew would remain behind for the winter, repairing the drying racks and nets. However, no permanent settlement was established.

In 1623, a group of merchants in Dorchester, England, formed a joint venture company. Their idea was to establish a permanent colony that would be somewhat self-sustaining so that the fishing could be completed by the time the ships arrived. This would reduce the expense of maintaining the ships and insure their early return voyage. They selected Cape Ann for the settlement, the northern promontory of Massachusetts Bay, site of present-day Gloucester. At first, they left fourteen men in 1623 but they failed to make a satisfactory catch. The company sent additional men in 1624 and 1625. The colony struggled on, but failed to survive, the soil being too poor to support agriculture. In 1626 most of the men returned to England, except a few who remained under the leadership of Roger Conant. He moved the colony a few miles down the coast to the site of present-day Salem.

In 1628, a new patent was granted to the New England Company to settle lands in the area of Massachusetts Bay. This company was formed by influential Puritans with the idea of providing a religious refuge for their members. John Endicott [Endecott] and thirty others were sent to Salem with provisions, and he assumed command of the colony. Because of legal difficulties with the New England Company's patent, a royal patent was obtained, transferring title to the Massachusetts Bay Company.



In the spring of 1629, Endicott received word that a fleet of ships, under the leadership of Rev. Francis Higginson, was being sent to reinforce the colony. On June 28<sup>th</sup>, he heard that the fleet was off Cape Ann. He sent a ship to meet and pilot them into Salem harbor. On Jun 29, 1629, after two months at sea, George Norton arrived in the New World, one of the first of several hundred English colonists in the history of New England. His courageous decision altered the course of our family history to a greater extent than any other.



## Chapter Six

### George Norton of Salem

The ship that brought George Norton to Salem carried a letter of instructions to Endicott from the founding company in England. It stated, “There is one Norton, a carpenter, whom we pray you respect as he deserves.”

The challenging task for George, as a carpenter, was to help build the shelters needed for the present colony and the future wave of immigrants. All that existed at that time were a few crude huts, made of wattle and daub sides with thatched roofs. Several were dug into the side of hills. One adequate house, built at Cape Ann for the future governor, had been dismantled and re-assembled in Salem.

On August 6<sup>th</sup>, 1629, the First Church of Salem was founded. There were about thirty members who signed the charter. Among the first to sign were Conant and Endicott, with George Norton the eleventh signer.

The first winter was disastrous, with many of the settlers dying from disease and malnutrition. The Pilgrim colony at Plymouth sent a lay doctor to offer whatever limited help he could.

In June 1630, a large fleet of eleven ships arrived at Salem, with the first of a flood of Puritan refugees. The arrivals, under Governor Winthrop, looked over the site at Salem and announced that it did not please them. Perhaps the sight of eighty fresh graves in the burial ground influenced their decision. They sailed south to the Boston area and settled several towns. In the next decade, over 20,000 colonists would arrive in the Massachusetts Bay area.

George Norton stayed at Salem, continuing his work as a carpenter. In 1634, he contracted to build the meeting house at Salem for one hundred pounds. This was the first Congregational Church erected in America. On May 14, 1634, he took the Freeman's Oath. This entitled him to full participation in the political and religious activities of the community. At that time, there were thirty-six Freemen out of a population of eighty-five adult males. The first settlers in Salem who took the oath swore allegiance to the King, but by 1634, an altered oath required allegiance to the Commonwealth. Also, in an extremely unusual move, perhaps designed to prevent interference by the King, the founding charter of the company had been brought to New England. It seems as if some idea of independence was already forming.

In 1634, George Norton married Mary Machias. In 1635, the first of ten children, Freegrace, was born in Salem. At intervals of two years, the remaining children were born. George and his family moved to Gloucester in 1642. He was chosen as one of the first town officers, and its first representative to the General Assembly in 1642. In about 1646, the family moved a few miles to nearby Wenham.

In 1648, George Norton had controversial dealings with the Church at Wenham, probably involving the construction of some Church building. He attempted to gather witnesses to support his position. As the result of his attempt, he was charged with several offenses. He was taken to court for [spelling modernized] "... lying and suborning witnesses to scandalize the church of Wenham, [and ordered] to pay 20 shillings for two lies and seven witnesses, ... and to confess before the assembly met at Wenham in the meeting house, as follows: 'I do confess and acknowledge that I have sinfully endeavored to justify myself and my turbulent and factious agitation against the just and orderly proceedings of the Church against me for my sin; that I have incessantly labored out of the pride of my heart to gather up witnesses of all sorts to testify against the dealings of the Church with me, seeking thereby to lay a scandal upon the Church, which can not but greatly tend to the dishonor of God and the reproach of religion.' Refusing to make the confession, to sit one hour in the stocks..." George, being a typical hard-headed Norton, chose to sit in the stocks.

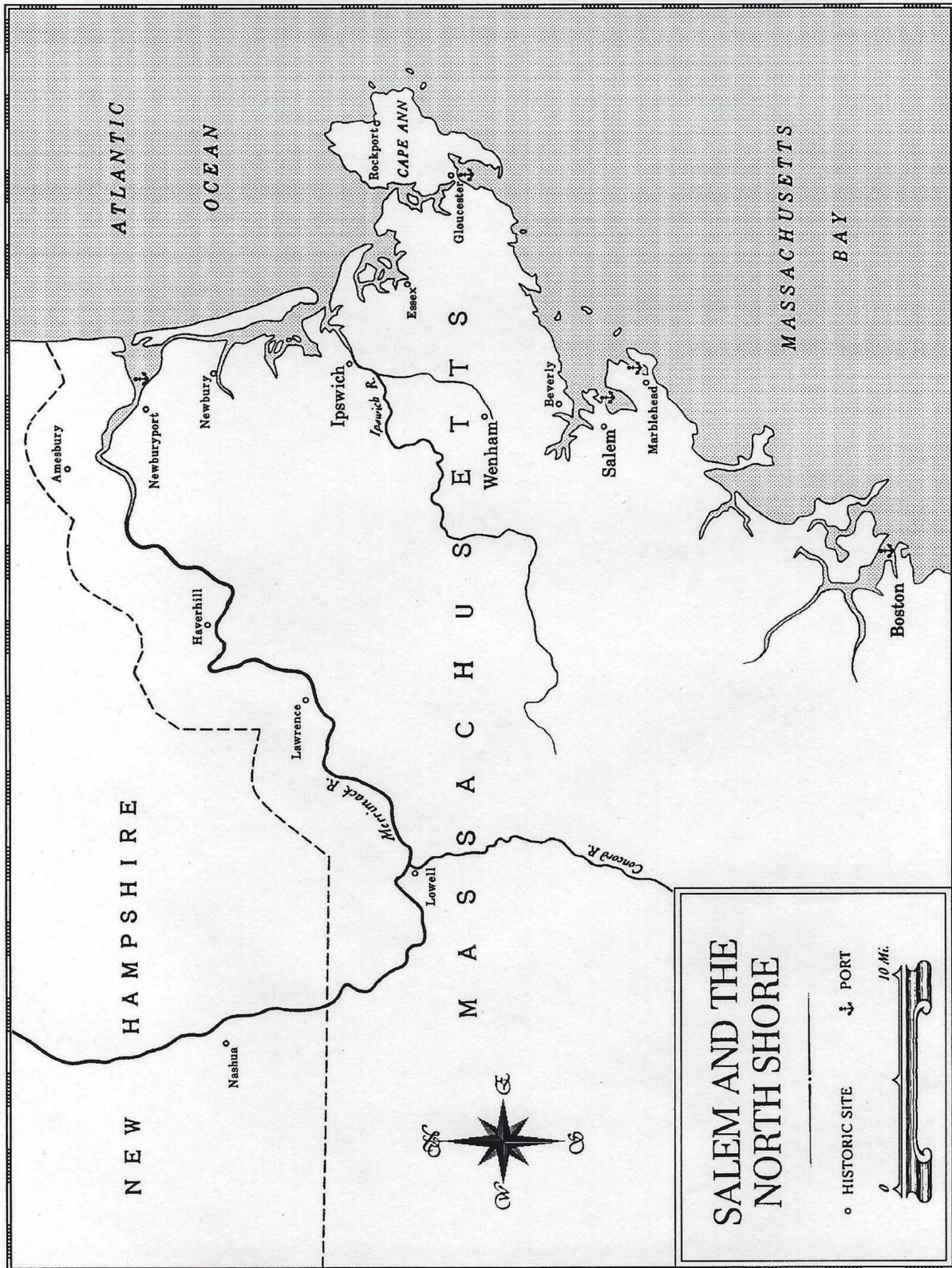
This incident illustrates the heavy hand of the religious authorities in the civil life of the colony. Non-conforming members were banished. The harshest treatment was applied to Quakers, who were cruelly persecuted. However, conditions were relatively benign compared to the religious intolerance in Europe.

Emanuel Downing was an influential colonist in Massachusetts, having married the sister of Governor Winthrop. Their family home, on a farm named “Groton” in remembrance of his wife's ancestral home, burnt down, and they moved to Salem. Their daughter married William Norton (14) of Ipswich, and it was probably through this relationship that George was offered a lease on the farm owned by the Downings. In 1656, he built a house with a brick chimney on the property, in exchange for a year’s free rent. There was an inn on the property, since it was on the road from Boston to Ipswich and probably George and his family ran the establishment.

In the spring of 1659, George felt that his health was failing, and he sold his lease on the farm. He died later that year. His wife, who remarried Phillip Fowler, died in 1694.



## Map 6 - Salem





**Signature 6 - George Norton of Salem**

George Norton

## Chart 6 - George Norton of Salem

14 George Norton [1610 – 1659] \*  
sp Mary [Machias?] [Freegrace?] [? -1694]  
    15 Freegrace Norton [1635 – 1675]  
    sp Lydia Spencer  
    15 John Norton [1637 - ?]  
    sp Mary Sharp  
    15 Nathaniel Norton [1639 - 1685]  
    sp Mary Mills  
    15 George Norton [1641 – 1696] \*  
    1<sup>st</sup> sp Sarah Hart [? - 1682]  
    2<sup>nd</sup> sp Mercy Barber Gillett [1651 - ?]  
    15 Mary Norton [1643 - ?]  
    sp Thomas Hart  
    15 Mehitabel Norton [1645 - ?]  
    sp Samuel Adams  
    15 Sarah Norton [1647 - ?]  
    sp Samuel Hart  
    15 Hannah Norton [1649 - ?]  
    15 Abigail Norton [1651 - ?]  
    sp Samuel Martin  
    15 Elizabeth Norton [1653 - ?]  
    sp Timothy Symmes

## **Chapter Seven**

### **The Century at Suffield**

George Norton (15) was the fourth son of George Norton of Salem. He was baptized on March 28, 1624 at Salem. He followed his father's trade as a carpenter. He married Sarah Hart on October 7, 1669 and moved to Ipswich, where his first five children were born.

Colonists were spreading their settlements farther inland as the pressure for additional farmland increased. The requirements of a village in New England at that time were dictated by the need for defense. Houses for about one hundred people, clustered around a central common, were usually needed. The village could not be too large, because travel to the the outlying farmland would be difficult. Additionally, a fast flowing stream was needed to power the gristmill and sawmill.

Major John Pynchon undertook the founding of such a settlement, petitioning the General Assembly in Boston for the charter. Major Pynchon selected a site in the Connecticut River valley, where Stony Brook flowed down to the river, and purchased several square miles from the Indians. He advertised lots for sale, and George Norton with his wife and five children purchased sixty acres and moved to Suffield in about 1674.

Suffield was an ideal site for a farming community. It was situated on the crest of a ridge that ran parallel to the Connecticut River. The land sloped to the east down to the river, about a mile away. To the west, there was a fertile plain of alluvial soil that extended several miles to a range of low mountains. The climate was favorable and tobacco was one of the crops that was grown successfully.

The timing of the move proved to be unfortunate as King Philip's War broke out in 1675. King Philip was the chief of the Wampanoag tribe and he



secured allies from most all of the other tribes in the New England area. They launched a series of raids on many of the outlying villages, slaughtering the men and taking the women and children as captives. The militias from the coastal towns were mobilized and a bloody two year war ensued. Freegrace (15), the oldest son of George Norton of Salem, was in the war, serving under Captain Appleton. On October 19, 1675, the village of Hatfield, Massachusetts was attacked. Captain Appleton with the militia from Ipswich marched to relieve the siege at Hatfield. In the battle, Freegrace was killed. In the course of the war, seventeen villages were destroyed by the Indians, including Suffield. One out of every ten men in the militia was killed in the bloodiest of all Colonial wars. It is estimated that a thousand colonists and three thousand Indians were killed in this war.

In 1677, Suffield was rebuilt, and George Norton and his family returned. He worked as a carpenter and innkeeper in addition to his farming. George made furniture and became well established as a cabinet maker. Some of his furniture was handed down from generation to generation in the Norton Family line until the death of his descendant, John Pease Norton, in 1952. The furniture still exists today in the hands of a collector.

The men of the village were assigned to the various offices at the village meetings. George took the Freeman's Oath in 1681 and was appointed at various times to the positions of surveyor, fence viewer, selectman, tything man and hogreeve. "Tything Men" were to "inspect all licensed houses of entertainment and inform of all disorders or misdemeanors, committed in them, and inform of all idle, and disorderly persons, profane swearers, Sabbath breakers and the like offenders." A hogreeve was responsible for enforcing the rules against trespassing of grazing livestock, a problem that took up a great deal of the town meeting's time. George was appointed as the first representative of Suffield to the General Assembly in Boston. Since Suffield was too poor to pay its allotted tax, their representative was reduced to a non-voting status. In 1682, George Norton was one of only forty men, qualified to vote on village affairs. George's wife, Sarah, died in 1682 and he remarried Mercy Gillette [Gillett]. Even though King Philip's war was over, a standing

militia was needed. George attained the rank of Captain in 1693. At a town meeting in 1695, the board “agreed with Capt. Norton and Richard Austin to make all the Windowes for the Ministers House, at eighteen Pence per Light, and the towne to pay them for the same, in provision, and flax...” Since gold and silver coins were scarce, and paper currency was suspect, a great deal of transactions were in barter. At one town meeting, it was decided that iron was a legal standard for financial dealings. A gallon of liquor was also commonly used as a medium of exchange.

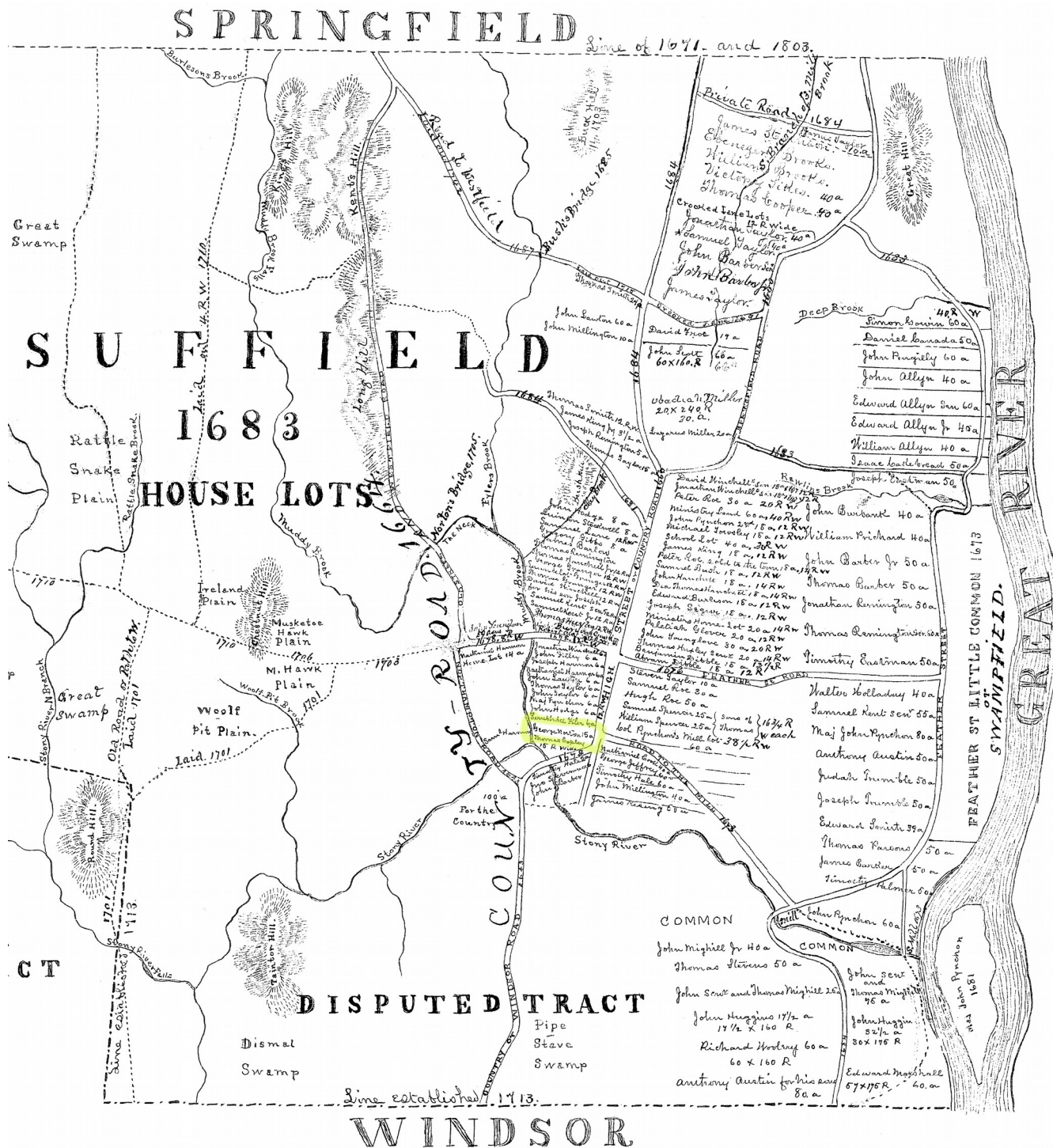
George’s son, George (16), continued to live in Suffield. He married Hannah Younglove, the minister’s daughter. In turn, he held the offices of surveyor, fence viewer, constable, tything man, and hogreeve. It seems as if, in a very democratic fashion, the men of the town rotated the duties. George’s son George (17), remain in Suffield from 1697 until his death in 1748.

The line in Suffield continued with Shadrach (18). Even though the conflict with the Indians had been reduced temporarily following King Philip’s War, raids on the settlements continued. The Indian tribes were supported by the French to retain their control of the fur trade. By continual series of ambushes and massacres, the French and Indians prevented the frontier from progressing westward beyond the Appalachians. Shadrach enlisted in the militia, with his brothers Issachar and Zebulon, and served three terms, 1756, 1758, and 1759. The French and Indian War ended with the defeat of the French forces at Quebec in 1759 by British troops under General Wolfe’s command, and at Montreal in 1760.

The direct ancestral line left Suffield when Shadrach’s (18) three sons, Issachar (19), Shadrach (19), and Joseph (19) moved near Bennington, Vermont.



**Map 7 - 1683 Suffield**  
**George Norton's lot boxed in yellow.**



## Chart 7 - The Nortons of Suffield

15 George Norton [1641 – 1696] \*  
1<sup>st</sup> sp Sarah Hart [1647 – 1682]  
    16 Sarah Norton [1670 – 1726]  
    sp John Parsons [1666 – 1714]  
    16 George Norton [1672 – 1742]  
    1<sup>st</sup> sp Hannah Younglove[? - 1715]  
        17 George Norton [1697 – 1748]  
        sp Agnes Austin  
            18 Agnes Norton [1722 - ?]  
            18 George Norton [1724 – 1777]  
            sp ---?  
                19 George Norton [1750 – 1830]  
                sp ---?  
                    20 Ambrose Norton  
18 Zebulon Norton [1727 - ?]  
18 Issachar Norton [1729 - ?]  
18 Shadrach Norton [1732 – 1777] \*  
sp Mary Smith  
    19 Shadrach Norton [1755 - ?]  
    19 Issachar Norton [1757 – 1825] \*  
    sp Lorana Paine [? - 1843]  
    19 Mercy Norton [1759 - ?]  
    19 Joseph Norton [1762 – 1831]  
    sp Mary ---? [1760 – 1848]  
    19 Martin Norton [1764 - ?]  
    19 Apollos Norton [1767 - ?]  
    19 Agnes Norton [1771 - 1774]  
    19 George Norton [1777 - ?]

continued ...

... continued

- 17 Hannah Norton [1701 – 1701]
- 17 Nathaniel Norton [1703 – 1776]
- sp Mary Bartlett [? - 1759]
  - 18 Alice Norton [1729 - ?]
  - sp Noah Pomroy Jr.
  - 18 Daniel Norton [1732 - ?]
  - 18 Abel Norton [1734 - ?]
  - 18 Mary Norton [1736 - ?]
  - 18 Jonathan Norton [1761 – 1830]
  - sp Sarah W. ---? [1741 – 1816]
    - 19 Jonathan Norton [1761 – 1830]
    - 19 Comfort Norton [1768 - ?]
    - 19 Roderick Norton [1774 - ?]
    - 19 Rhoda Norton [1779 - ?]
  - 18 Thankful Norton [1742 - ?]
  - 18 George Norton [1747 - ?]
  - 18 Nathaniel Norton [1753 - ?]
- 17 Hannah Norton [1707 - ?]
- 17 Thomas Norton [ 1708 – 1776]
- sp Elizabeth Pikes [Sikes]
  - 18 Elizabeth Norton [1744 - ?]
  - 18 Thomas Norton [1745 - ?]
  - sp Submit Tousley
    - 19 Mary Norton [1771 - ?]
    - 19 Thomas Norton [1773 - ?]
    - 19 Sophia Norton [1776 - ?]

continued ...

... continued

- 18 Simeon Norton [1748 – 1791]
- sp Mary Adams [1755 – 1813]
  - 19 Simeon Norton [1770 - ?]
  - sp Charlotte Loomis [1760 - ?]
    - 20 Polly Norton [1791 - ?]
    - 20 Simeon Norton [1793 - ?]
    - 20 Hannah Norton [1795 - ?]
    - 20 Mary Norton [1797 - ?]
    - 20 Charlotte Norton [1799 - ?]
    - 20 Harvey Norton [1802 - ?]
- 19 Philo Norton [1772 – 1773]
- 17 John Norton [1712 – 1789]
- sp Rebecca Sheldon [? - 1793]
  - 18 Rebecca Norton [1733 – 1813]
  - sp Joseph Fuller
  - 18 John Norton [1734 – 1808]
  - 18 Hulda Norton [1736 – 1822]
  - sp Moses Rowe
  - 18 Asa Norton [1739 – 1777]
  - 18 Elijah Norton [1741 – 1827]
  - sp Elizabeth Stiles
    - 19 Aurelia Norton [1769 - ?]
    - sp Zebulon Rust
    - 19 Benjamin Norton [1771 - ?]
    - 19 Elijah Norton Jr. [1773 - ?]
    - sp Mary Kent
    - 19 Joseph Norton [1777 - ?]

continued ...

... continued

- 18 Rachel Norton [1744 – 1811]
- sp John Hale
- 18 Sarah Norton [1746 – 1811]
- sp John Moran
- 18 Aphia [Apphia] Norton [1749 – 1837]
- sp Increase Mather
- 18 Daniel Norton [1751 – 1814]
- 1<sup>st</sup> sp Lucy King [1753 – 1831]
  - 19 Lucy Norton [1793 - ?]
  - sp Asaph Leavitt Bissell
  - 19 Amelia Norton [1795 - ?]
  - 19 Daniel Norton [1799 - ?]
  - sp Mindwell Norton [1801 - ?]
    - 20 Elisabeth Pease Norton [1826 - ?]
    - 20 Lucy King Norton [1830 - ?]
    - 20 Mary Ellen Norton [1836 - ?]
    - 20 John Hughes Norton [1839 - ?]
    - 20 Emily Louise Norton [1842 - ?]
- 2<sup>nd</sup> sp Augusta Knowles
- 18 Seth Norton [1754 - ?]
- sp Sarah Pengilley
  - 19 Susanna Norton [1777 - ?]
  - 19 Thaddeus Norton [1779 - 1809]
  - 19 Rufus Norton [1781 - ?]
  - 19 Seth Norton [1783 - ?]
  - 19 John Norton [1785 - ?]
  - 19 Oliver Norton [1787 - ?]
  - 19 Sylvester Norton [1789 - ?]
  - 19 Sarah Norton [1791 - ?]
  - 19 Cynthia Norton [1794 - ?]
  - 19 Norman Norton [1797 - ?]
  - 19 Sidney Newton Norton [1799 - ?]

continued ...

... continued

- 2<sup>nd</sup> sp Martha E Stiles (sp of George Norton 16)
- 16 Thomas Norton [1674 – 1744]
- 1<sup>st</sup> sp Mercy Rust
- 2<sup>nd</sup> sp Mary Rayment Beverly
- 16 Nathaniel Norton [1676 – 1776]
- sp Mercy ---?
- 16 Alice Norton [1678 - ?]
- sp Robert Kimbal
- 16 Samuel Norton [1679 – 1679]
- 16 Samuel Norton [1681 – 1681]
- 16 Jonathan Norton [1682 – 1682]
- 2<sup>nd</sup> sp Mercy Barber Gillett [1651 – 1725] (sp of George Norton 15)
- 16 Mary Jane Norton [1685 - ?]
- sp ---? Huxley
- 16 Abigail Norton [1687 – 1705]
- 16 Freegrace Norton [1689 – 1758]
- sp Sarah Martin
  - 17 Freegrace Norton [1714 – 1714]
  - 17 Freegrace Norton [1717 - ?]
  - sp Margaret Trumble
    - 18 Margaret Norton [1740 - ?]
    - sp David Nelson
    - 18 Ruth Norton [1743 - ?]
    - 18 Anne Norton [1744 - ?]
    - 18 Freegrace Norton [1746 - ?]
    - 18 Robert Norton [1749 - ?]
    - 18 Eldad Norton [1751 - ?]
    - 18 Mary Norton [1753 - ?]

continued ...



... continued

- 17 Samuel Norton [1718 - ?]
- sp Elizabeth Pumroy
  - 18 Elizabeth Norton [1744 - ?]
  - 18 Eunice Norton [1746 - ?]
  - 18 Samuel Norton [1748 - ?]
- 17 John Norton [1720 - ?]
- 17 Martin Norton [1723 - ?]
- sp Rhoda Harmon
- 17 Sarah Norton [1724 - ?]
- sp Jarvis Peck
- 17 Mercy Norton [1726 - ?]
- 17 Abigail Norton [1728 - ?]
- 17 Elizabeth Norton [1730 - ?]
- 17 Johanna Norton [1731 - ?]
- 17 Robert Norton [1733 - ?]
- 16 Joanna Norton [1693 - ?]
- sp Abraham Adams
- 16 Elizabeth Norton [1695 – 1697]
- 16 Elizabeth Norton [1697 – 1727]

## Chapter Eight

### Vermont

Since the external threat of the French had been removed, the colonists turned their attention to their internal problems: securing independence from England.

The War of the Revolution broke out in Massachusetts in 1775. Shadrach (18) served in the Connecticut Militia. George Norton's (17) son, George (18), was involved in the Battle of Trenton. Washington crossed the Delaware on December 26, 1775, to attack the Hessian mercenary troops at Trenton. George was wounded and died shortly afterwards at Roxbury, near Suffield.

The war went badly for the colonists, with a major defeat of Washington at Long Island. The British occupied New York and controlled the Hudson River with their warships. In 1777, General Burgoyne, with 7,000 troops set out from Canada, intending to proceed down Lake Champlain and on to the Hudson River, severing New England from the southern colonies. He easily defeated the garrison at Fort Ticonderoga and marched down to Saratoga. The militia was assembled at Bennington, and Issachar and Shadrach were enlisted. Burgoyne sent a raiding party eastward from Saratoga towards Bennington, with the purpose of obtaining additional supplies. The militia met the raiders and defeated them at the Battle of Bennington. Additional troops from New Hampshire under General Gates joined the Vermont militia and marched to Saratoga to engage the main forces of Burgoyne. After a hard battle, Burgoyne surrendered. This Battle of Saratoga was the turning point of the Revolution, since France, because of the colonists' victory, decided to enter the war against England.

Shadrach (19) and Issachar (19) left Bennington after the war and moved northward with their families. Issachar settled at New Haven, where his son, Samuel (20) was born. Shadrach settled nearby at Weybridge Town, on the Otter Creek. I believe that at this time, they were working as millwrights. They probably learned the trade at the sawmill in Suffield. In addition, Issachar ran a flaxseed press. The business of millwrights flourished at the advancing frontier, because land had to be cleared and timber converted to lumber for the houses and barns. In about 1802, the families left Vermont for Barnston, Quebec.



## Chart 8 - Vermont

19 Issachar Norton [1757 – 1825] \*  
sp Lorana Paine [? - 1843]  
    20 Seth Norton [1778 - 1831]  
        sp Lydia Sprague [1783 - 1849]  
    20 Shadrach Norton [1781 – 1838]  
        sp Abigail Porter [1781 – 1838]  
    20 Issachar Norton [1783 - ?]  
        1<sup>st</sup> sp Betsy Porter [1785 - ?]  
        2<sup>nd</sup> sp Betsy Chapman  
    20 Samuel Norton [1785 – 1856] \*  
        sp Orpha Heath [1791 - ?]  
    20 Eldad Norton [1789 - ?]  
        sp Betsey Heath  
    20 Olive Norton [abt 1791 - ?]  
        sp Roswell Smith  
    20 Laura Norton {abt 1793 - ?}  
        sp John Henry  
    20 Roswell Norton [abt 1794 – abt 1795]  
    20 Roswell Norton [abt 1797 - ?]  
        sp ---? Lane  
    20 Elon Norton [abt 1799 - ?]  
        sp Sarah Corey

## Chapter Nine

### Canada

Issachar, with many of the families of his married children, arrived in Barnston, Quebec in 1803. This area, just over the Vermont border, was almost complete wilderness, with no direct communication to Vermont. On arrival, the families faced the challenging tasks of clearing the land, planting crops and erecting houses and barns.

The area was developing rapidly, however, with a flood of immigrants from Scotland and England. The wave of immigration swept up the Connecticut River valley in Vermont and spilled over into Quebec, with the encouragement of the Canadian government. A sharp line of demarcation can be drawn in Quebec between twons settled and named byua the French, such as St. Alois and St. Alphonse, and those settled and named by the British such as Richmond and Hemmingford.

In addition to their farming, the Norton families probably worked as millwrights, since the demand for lumber would have been high. DespiteGenesee road the short growing season the soil was reported to be fertile.

Issachar's son, Samuel (20), married Orpha Heath, and their first son Hiram (21), was born in Barnston in 1810.



## Chart 9 - Canada

- 20 Samuel Norton [1785 – 1856] \*
- sp Orpha Heath [1791 - ?]
  - 21 Hiram Norton [1810 – 1887] \*
  - sp Emily Jane Grovenburgh [1815 – 1860]
  - 21 Harriet Norton [abt 1812 - ?]
  - 21 Olive Norton [abt 1814 - ?]
  - 21 Sally A. Norton [abt 1817 - ?]
  - 21 Amanda Norton [abt 1820 - ?]
  - 21 Elon Alonzo Norton [abt 1824 - ?]
  - sp Sarah C. Wood [1829 – 1890]
  - 21 Melvina Norton [abt 1826 - ?]
  - 21 Samuel S. Norton [1828 – 1908]
  - sp Adaline F. Wilcox [1845 - ?]
  - 21 Clarissa Norton [abt 1833 - ?]
  - 21 Mary Norton [1836 - ?]

## **Chapter Ten**

### **New York**

After the American Revolution, the Northwest Territory was ceded by Britain to the United States. This territory consisted of the area north of the Ohio River and east of the Mississippi. In reality, no settlements could be established because of the resistance of the Indians. England supplied the Indians with munitions and trade goods, thereby maintaining complete control of the fur trade. The Indian resistance was led by Tecumseh, chief of the Shawnees, who consistently defeated all effort to subdue the tribes in the Territory. This obstruction of expansion was one of the main causes of the War of 1812. In this war, Tecumseh was killed and the British ceded actual control of the area to the Americans.

The western frontier could now expand, moving up the Mohawk valley, through the Finger Lakes region and along the Genesee Road to western New York. The inhabitants of Vermont caught “Genesee fever,” and as fast as Vermont had filled up, it emptied even faster. Settlements were being founded and millwrights were needed. Samuel (20), the fourth son of Issachar, with his wife, Orpha Heath, moved from Canada to western New York about 1820. Many of the collateral Norton families remained in Canada.

Samuel, with his family, first settled in Barre and Elba, villages near the Genesee Road. The Erie Canal opened in 1825, and settlers poured into the area. Hiram (21) married Emily Jane Grovenburgh in 1832. About 1835, Samuel and Hiram, with their families, moved to Cattaraugus County.

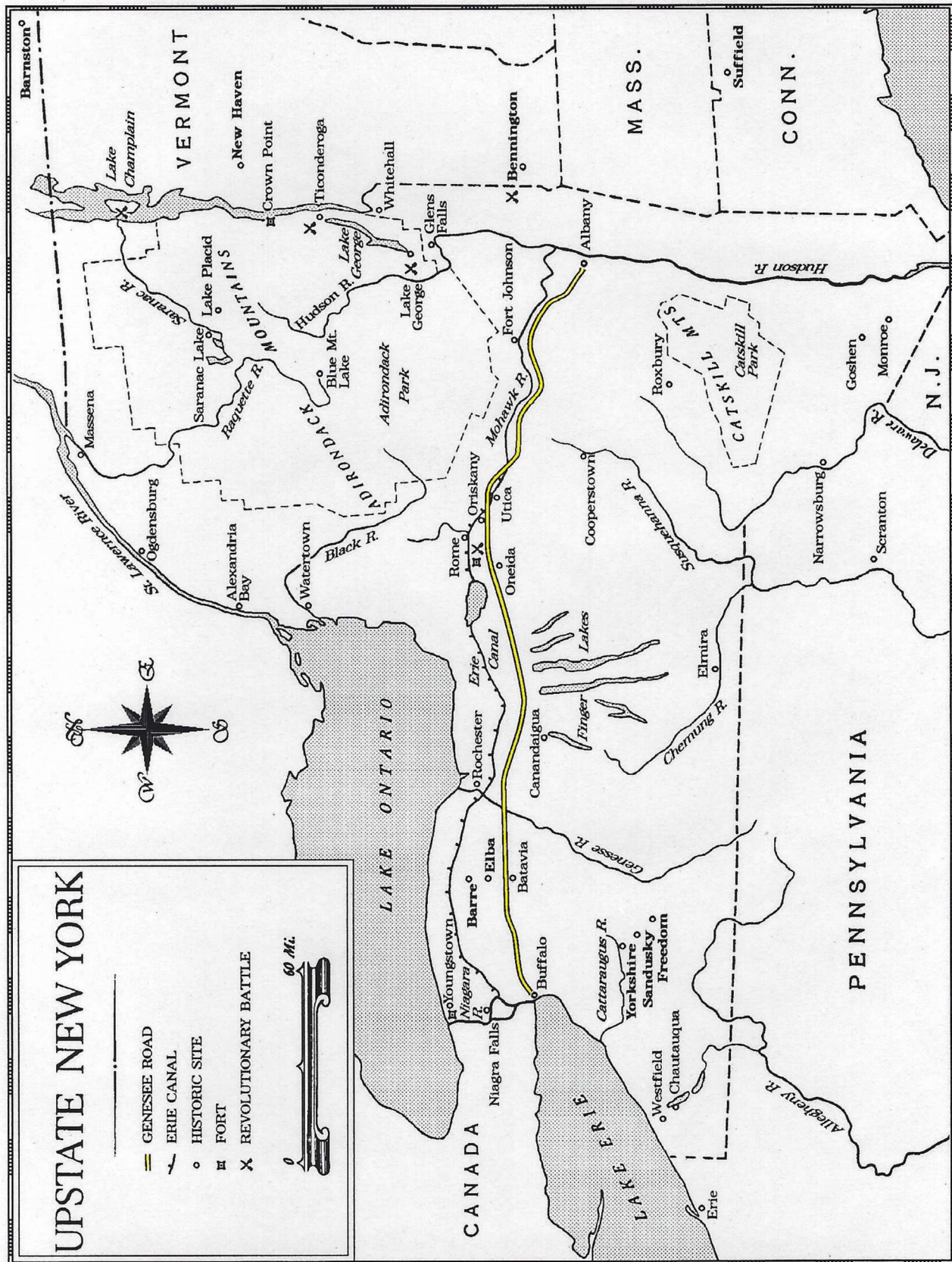
The families moved to various small villages: Freedom, Farmersville, Yorkshire (an echo from centuries past), and Sandusky. Samuel's son, Samuel S. Norton (21), served in the Civil War. Samuel was a founding member of the First Universalist Church of Snadusky. The families were certainly in the lumber business during this time.

In 1838, Hiram Norton and his wife, Emily, and the two oldest children, Orpha and Horace, moved to Ashtabula County in northeastern Ohio.





# Map 10 - Upstate New York



## **Chapter Eleven**

### **The Century in Michigan**

The last major Indian battle east of the Mississippi was fought in southern Wisconsin, the Black Hawk War of 1832. The frontier was free to expand through the entire Northwest Territory. From the Atlantic coast to the Mississippi, every mile of advance was paid for in countless lives lost, both settler and Indian. Not a single generation was spared from the bloody conflict.

Hiram Norton (21) and his family left Ashtabula County, Ohio, in about 1846. The road into Michigan ran through the Black Swamp in northern Ohio. This area, between the Au Galize branch of the Maumee and the Sandusky River, was completely flooded in the spring. The road consisted of logs stacked sideways to the path, forming a causeway. Passage was so difficult that the settlement of Michigan was greatly retarded. Imagine traveling on such a road in a farm wagon loaded with furniture, implements and barrels of flour and salted pork for provisions.

The southern tier of Michigan counties filled with settlers in about 1810, and the second tier in 1825. Hiram arrived as the third tier was being settled and selected a site in Ingham County, near the Grand River. He established a saw mill in the small village of Aurelius. His married children settled in sites adjacent to his. The parents of his wife, Emily Grovenburgh, moved from western New York to join them in Ingham County.

Hiram's oldest son, Horace (22), worked as a carpenter as well as farming. On January first, 1861, Horace married Phoebe Porter. His first child, George (23), was born in December. A second son was born in 1863.

The Civil War broke out, and Horace Norton enlisted on September 3, 1864. He contracted typhoid fever during the war and was hospitalized for some time. He was discharged on June 8, 1865. His brother, James was also in the war. He had some heart damage, probably from rheumatic fever and presented himself at the induction center with a certificate of disability from his physician. In his words, "I had with me a certificate stating that I was an invalid under a doctor's care, and that I was entirely unfit for the service, or to do duty as a soldier. Yet, to my astonishment, out of ten who were drafted, I was the only one taken, because I was a poor man." Evidently, deferment could be bought.

Horace's first wife, Phoebe, died after the birth of her second child, and Horace married her sister, Rachel. They had two more children. Rachel died in 1882, and Horace married for the third time to Effie Olive Drake of Jackson. Horace evidently had financial difficulties and lost his farm property through debt. He moved to the adjacent Eaton County and worked as a mechanic. He injured his foot and died three days later of infection on May 1, 1889.

George Norton (23), Horace's oldest son, sought his fortune in Saginaw, Michigan. Saginaw was a boom town, rich with wealth of lumber cut from the virgin forests of white pine. The character of American life changed in the late nineteenth century from an essentially rural agrarian economy to an urban industrial one. George was employed in Saginaw as a streetcar conductor. He married Ida Roseviere, who came from the Province of Ontario, Canada.

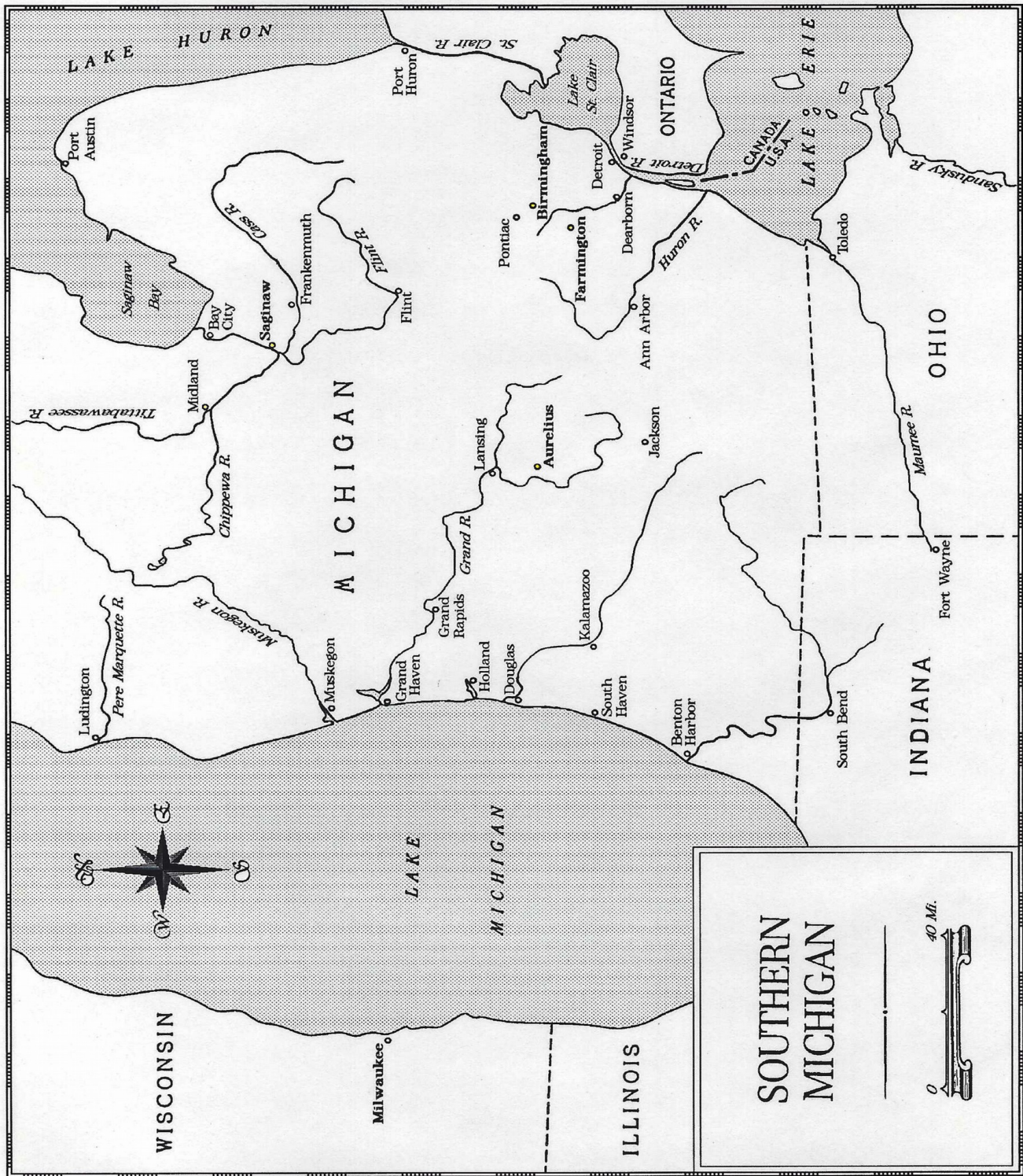
George's oldest son, Joseph Norton (24) was born in 1895. He entered the Navy in the first World War and served on a destroyer, patrolling in the North Atlantic. After the war, he was stationed at the Philadelphia Naval Yard, where he met his future wife, Theodora Wharton. They were married and returned to Saginaw, where Joseph was employed by the Pere Marquette Railroad. After the birth of his two children, Joseph decided to enter medical school. On graduation, he entered practice with his brother, George, in Birmingham, Michigan. Later, he moved to Farmington, Michigan, a small village on the road between Detroit and Lansing. The town was founded by Quakers in 1832, and it was originally called Quaker Town. Joseph and Theodora subsequently moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

Their two children, Joseph (25) and James (25), attended Michigan State University. Joseph was graduated as a chemist, and shortly thereafter, entered the armed forces in World War II. He was an officer in the Field Artillery and served in the European Theater of Operations. Following the war, Joseph and his wife, Betty McCreadie, were employed by Dow Chemical at Midland, Michigan. James enlisted in the Air Force and was trained as a meteorologist. He served in South America forecasting weather for trans Atlantic flights. After the war, James entered medical school at Philadelphia. He established his practice in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the home of his wife, Patricia Stanford.





# Map 11 - Southern Michigan



## Chart 11 - The Nortons in Michigan

- 21 Hiram Norton [1810 – 1887] \*
- sp Emily Jane Grovenburgh [1815 – 1860]
  - 22 Orpha Sophia Norton [1832 – 1918]
  - sp Charles Smith Dunbar [1831 – 1909]
    - 23 Mary W. Dunbar [1854 - ?]
    - 23 Cyrus P. Dunbar [1856 - ?]
    - 23 William H. Dunbar [1858 - ?]
    - 23 Hiram Dunbar [1861- ?]
    - 23 Charles Dunbar [1869 - ?]
    - 23 Ernest B. Dunbar [abt 1869 - ?]
    - 23 Edward P. Dunbar [1870 - ?]
  - 22 Horace Clinton Norton [1836 – 1889] \*
  - 1<sup>st</sup> sp Phoebe Porter [1847 – abt 1866]
    - 23 George R. Norton [1861 – 1928] \*
    - sp Ida Elizabeth Roseviere [1869 – 1934]
      - 24 Florence Norton [1888 - ?]
      - sp Daniel St. Denis
      - 24 Joseph Wilbur Norton [1895 – 1962]
      - sp Theodora Joyce Wharton [1902 – 1979]
        - 25 Joseph Wilbur Norton [1921 – 2005]
        - 25 James Leroy Norton [1923 – 2012] \*
      - 24 Esther Norton [1898 – 1960]
      - sp James Taylor
      - 24 George Russel Norton [1904 – 1985]
      - sp Dorothy Lahr
      - 23 Charles C. Norton [1864 - ?]
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> sp Thalia Henry [1841 – 1882]
    - 23 Emily C. Norton [1871 - ?]
    - 23 Minnie Norton [1874 – 1874]
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> sp Effie Olive Follett Drake [1848 – 1908]
    - 23 Halley L. Norton [1886 - ?]
    - 23 ---?
    - sp Clyde Sprinkle
    - 23 Julia Norton

continued ...

... continued

- 22 George W. Norton [1839 - ?]
- sp Matilda ---? [1842 - ?]
  - 23 Ida Norton [1870 – 1919]
  - sp Elmer Gunn [1866 - ?]
- 22 James R. Norton [1842 – 1921]
- 1<sup>st</sup> sp Marilla E. Henry [1853 – 1879]
  - 23 Rueben Norton [1877 - ?]
- 2<sup>nd</sup> sp Ida May Davidson [1865 – 1932]
  - 23 Homer Leland Norton [1887 - ?]
- 22 Emily Mary Norton [1844 – 1872]
- sp Henry Summerix [1835 - ?]
  - 23 Moses Summerix [1860 - ?]
  - 23 James Summerix [1862 - ?]
  - 23 Melvin Summerix [1864 - ?]
  - 23 Harry Summerix [1866 - ?]
  - 23 Emily Summerix [1869 - ?]
- 22 Emeline Norton [1848 - ?]
- 22 Eveline Norton [1848 – 1919]
- sp George Coddington [1851 - ?]
  - 23 Blanche Coddington [1880 - ?]
- 22 Samuel Alonzo Norton [1851 - ?]
- 22 Charles S. Norton [1856 - ?]

## Chapter Twelve

### Wisconsin

James and Patricia (Stanford) Norton had four children. Robert, Jamie, William and Philip.

Robert (26) studied electronics at University of Wisconsin, Madison. He married Berdine Fleischman of Sea Cliff, New York. They have two sons, James and Daniel, gifted young men with impressive potentials. Robert is employed by a medical electronics company, designing medical laboratory equipment.

Jamie (26) lives in Milwaukee and she is employed in the insurance profession. She graduated from University of Wisconsin, Madison, majoring in Art History.

William (26) is a captain at Northwest Airlines and lives near Minneapolis, Minnesota. His wife is Lori Knutson, from Jamestown, North Dakota. They have two daughters, Jan and Gina, as wonderful grandchildren as grandparents could hope for.

Philip (26) graduated from the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design. He lives in Milwaukee and works in graphic design. He inherited his mother's artistic talent and creates exceptionally fine works of art.





## Chart 12 - Recent Nortons

- 24 Joseph Wilbur Norton [1895 – 1962]
  - sp Theodora Joyce Wharton [1902 – 1979]
    - 25 Joseph Wilbur Norton Jr. [1921 – 2005]
      - sp Elizabeth J. McCreadie [1922 – 2010]
        - 26 Joseph W. Norton III [1945 – 2006]
          - 26 John M. Norton [1948 -]
  - 25 James L. Norton [1923 – 2012] \*
    - sp Patricia C. Norton [1925 -]
      - 26 Robert J. Norton [1950 -]
        - sp Berdine Selma Fleischman [1951 -]
          - 27 James Robert Norton [1975 -]
          - 27 Daniel Alan Norton [1978 -]
      - 26 Jamie Christine Norton [1954 -]
      - 26 William Patrick Norton [1956 -]
        - sp Lori Dell Knutson [1956 -]
          - 27 Jan Marie Norton [1981 -]
          - 27 Gina Adelle Norton [1983 -]
      - 26 Philip Theodore Norton [1960 -]
        - sp Erica Heather Wallis [1973 -]
          - 27 Abigail Marie Norton [1996 -]
          - 27 John William Norton [2005 -]

## A Few Afterwords

Motivated at first by curiosity and a vague feeling of rootlessness, I started investigating my ancestry. As the research progressed, and I discovered these ancestral families and their circumstances, they became very real to me. I came to admire their courage and perseverance and to sympathize with their hardships. I felt they deserved something better than complete anonymity, so this account can be considered to be a small act of homage to their memory.

Writing the account has been very rewarding to me. It has given me a heightened sense of historical time and space, with the past being linked to the present in an unbroken chain of being. It has helped define myself in term of my extended family. The increased awareness of my heritage has somehow strengthened me, reminding me that I am a part of something larger than myself. I hope that, in turn, at some time in their lives, it may help my descendants.

*“An author is a fool who, not content with boring  
those who have lived with him,  
insists on boring future generations.”*

*— Montesquieu*



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James L. Norton  
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Whitefish Bay  
Wisconsin 53217



## **Digitizing**

This book was digitized in 2019. The art work was lost, one map was changed and post-1992 dates were added.